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TOPIC Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau

25X EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 15 September to 4 October 1952

25X1 [REDACTED] DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] PREPARED 24 October 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1.

2. During the period from 15 to 28 September, the barracks installation in Rossau on Highway 187 north of Dessau was completely reconditioned including the attics. Trucks hauling new metal cots daily entered the installation until 27 September. The trucks came from the direction of Dessau. 25X1

The column came from the direction of Dessau. At 8 p.m. on 23 September, a train consisting of about nine boxcars with personnel and an undetermined number of flat cars carrying 3 T-34/85 tanks, about 10 guns and several trucks [] went to Rosslau from the direction of Magdeburg. [] Other tank and artillery units arrived at the barracks installation in Dessau-Rosslau prior to 28 September. [] 2

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3. During the period from 15 to 28 September, the four training areas in the area of Dessau-Aken were still occupied as previously. On 15 September, pile bridges were built with temporary construction material and iron structures which were floated into place with ferries. The ferries were removed when vessels approached. Practices with temporary construction material and heavy equipment not previously seen were daily held during the period from 19 to 23 September. Small bridges built with three-section pontoons and temporary construction material were also constructed daily on the waters near Wildensee southeast of Dessau. Although the practicing units obviously strove to employ realistic tactics, [redacted] saw soldiers crowded at the construction sites. [redacted]

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4. On 20 September, a column of about 100 trucks which carried either personnel or billeting equipment and towed 8 model 43 57-mm AT guns and 6 x 76.2-mm field guns went to Dessau. The column came from the direction of Magdeburg.

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At 6 p.m. on 21 September, a train consisting of eight boxcars with personnel and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 20 T-34/85 tanks, 1 rocket launcher, about 8 x 120-mm mortars and 20 trucks with billeting equipment went to Dessau from the direction of Legdeburg.

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Comment. [redacted] the artillery battalion which arrived on 4 October belongs to the 54th Arty Div (38) in Potsdam. The arrival of this unit as well as the preparations made in the installation in Rossau and the fact that the unidentified engineer regiment of the GORC stayed in the Dessau-then training area tend to indicate that large fall exercises will be held in the area of Dessau.

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